ANTIMOIXEIA:

OR,

The Honeſt and Joynt-Deſign of the *TOWER-HAMBLETS* for the General Suppreſſion of BAWDY-HOUSES, As Incouraged thereto by the Publick Magiſtrates.

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WHEREAS Their moſt Excellent Majeſties, King *WILLIAM* and Queen *MARY*, have lately Iſſued out their Proclamation for the Apprehenſion of High-way-men, Robbers, *&c.* And have ſtrictly Charged and Commanded all Magiſtrates and Inferior Officers to be diligent in uſing the beſt Methods for putting the ſaid Proclamation into Execution, We the Church-wardens, Conſtables and ſeveral other Officers and Inhabitants of the *Tower*-Hamblets and Precincts, *viz.* of *Ratcliff*, *Limehouſe*, *Spittle-fields*, *Bethnal-green*, *Mile-end*, *Poplar* and *Black-wall*, *Bromly*, *Stratford le Bow*, *Hackney*, *Hollowel-ſtreet*, *Hogſdon* and *More-fields*, *Northenfolgate*, *White-chappel*, *Aldgate Extra*, St. *Katharines*, *Wapping White-chappel*, *Wapping Stepney*, *Shadwel*, *Tower Extra*, *Trinity Minories*, *Old Artillery-ground* and *Well-cloſe*, taking into our ſerious Conſideration how upon this Occaſion we might glorifie God, demonſtrate our Loyalty to the King, and do good to our Neighbours, we have upon mature deliberation concluded, That the Suppreſſion of Publick Bawdy-houſes in our ſeveral Pariſhes and Precincts, (as they are not only the Nurſeries of the moſt horrid Vices, and Sinks of the moſt filthy Debaucheries, but alſo (as we ſuppoſe them) the common Receptacles, or, rather, Dens of Notorious Thieves, Robbers, Traytors, and other Criminals, that fly from Publick Juſtice) would be not only a proper Means, but alſo a neceſſary Expedient, to anſwer the Noble Ends of Their Majeſties Royal Proclamation; We therefore the ſaid Church-wardens, Conſtables, other Officers and Inhabitants, being incited by the ſaid Proclamation, together with the King's late moſt gracious Letter to the Clergy: And alſo being further Incouraged hereto by the Right Honourable the Lord *Lucas* Governour of the *Tower* and Lord Lieutenant of the *Tower*-Hamblets, Sir *Thomas Chambers*, Knight, *Thomas Johnſon*, *Robert Haſtings*, and *John Robins*, Eſquires; together with the whole Bench of Their Majeſties Juſtices of the Peace, at their General Seſſions held at *Hicks*'s-Hall for the County of *Middleſex*, *Decemb.* 8. *Anno Dom.* 1690. who generally commended and highly applauded our honeſt Undertaking, and ordered this Inſtrument to be ſet in a Frame and hung up in the Seſſions-houſe. And ſeveral of the ſaid Worſhipful Juſtices deſired Copies of the ſame, in order to promote the like good Work in other Diviſions of the ſaid County: We do unanimouſly reſolve, by God's aſſiſtance, that in our ſeveral Places and Capacities we will uſe our utmoſt Diligence and Endeavours, by all lawful Ways and Means whatſoever, throughout all the *Tower*-Hamblets, (if poſſible) to ſuppreſs the ſaid Helliſh Houſes, as ſo many publick Nuſances and common deſtructive Peſts to Thouſands of Families. Here 'tis that Impudent Harlots by their Antick Dreſſes, Painted Faces, and Whoriſh Inſinuations, allure and tempt our Sons and Servants to Debauchery, and conſequently to embezel and ſteal from us, to maintain their Strumpets; Here 'tis that Hirelings conſume their Wages, that ſhould pay Debts to Tradeſmen, and buy Bread for Children, thereby Families are begger'd and Pariſhes much impoveriſhed; Here 'tis that Bodies are Poxt and Pockets are pickt of conſiderable Sums, the Revenge of which Injuries hath frequently occaſion'd Quarrellings, Fightings, Bloodſhed, Clamours of Murther (and that ſometimes at Midnight) pulling down of Signs and parts of Houſes, breaking of Windows, [illegible] Routs, Riots and Uproars, to the great Diſturbance and Diſquietment of Their Majeſties peaceable Subjects: Here 'tis that many a Houſe-[illegible] Venomous Plague, which he communicates to his Honeſt and Innocent Wife, whereby proper and timely Means, through ſhame or ignorance being neglected, ſhe lives a while a moſt painful, miſerable, and periſhing Life, and at length falls, by peace-meal, a dead Sacrifice to her Husband's unnatural Cruelty, and inhumane Beaſtiality: Here 'tis that Multitudes of Soldiers and Seamen get ſuch Bane that effeminates their Spirits and ſoon rots their Bodies, ſo renders them unſerviceable to Their Majeſties, and thereby the ſtrength of the Nation is mightily (tho' inſenſibly) impaired and weakned; And as theſe Houſes harbour and reſet Thieves, and are the lurking Holes of bloody and murtherous Miſcreants, (as *Tyburn*-Confeſſions have frequently aſſured us) which ſeek their Prey far off from their Dens, as well as near them; ſo the ſaid Houſes are of dangerous moment to every Individual of us all the ſaid Inhabitants as alſo of others that are at a more remote diſtance: Therefore had we no regard to the concerns of a Future Life, we reckon the Natural Care (which God hath planted in Man, in preſerving of this Life, and of all thoſe Comforts that belong to it, would of it ſelf be enough to oblige us, and may we with ſubmiſſion ſay, and with us (upon the ſame account) the whole Nation alſo) with the greateſt ſincerity, to eſpouſe, and promote, and univerſally propagate this good Deſign, that tends ſo much to the publick Benefit and general Advantage. And we the ſaid Conſtables and other Officers do faithfully promiſe, That we will ſpare none of the ſame Perſons belonging to any of the ſaid Houſes for Favor or Affection, but will take all Opportunities to carry the Plyers to ſome one or other of Their Majeſties Juſtices of the Peace in order to their Condign Puniſhment: And that we will as duly Return the Pimps and Bawds every Grand Inqueſt or Quarter-Seſſions into the *Crown-Office*. And we all whoſe Names are ſubſcribed, reſolve to employ an Attorney and Sollicitor continually to proſecute all ſuch Offenders that ſhall be there returned: And for defraying the ſaid Law-Charges, and for the better Encouragement of thoſe Officers that ſhall ſpend more than ordinary Time and Pains in this good Work, we all joyntly and ſeverally agree preſently, or within five or ſix days at fartheſt, to depoſite the ſum of Five Shillings at leaſt into the Hands of our Truſty Friends and Treaſurers herein ſubſcribed, whom we now with one conſent nominate and appoint to be our preſent Treaſurers for this purpoſe. It is alſo further agreed by us all, That every Hamblet ſhall have their particular Steward, to be choſen hereafter by the ſaid particular Hamblet: That the Office of the ſaid Stewards ſhall be to ſuperviſe the Attorney and Sollicitor, and alſo the Conſtables and Officers in their ſeveral Pariſhes, that they honeſtly and faithfully (as to this buſineſs) diſcharge their Duties and Offices, that they may be rewarded accordingly; And alſo in their ſeveral Hamblets to receive Subſcription-Money, all which Money (for the more convenient management of this Deſign) they are to pay to the ſaid Treaſurers, who ſhall give Receipts under his or their own Hands for all the Money he or they ſhall receive; And Orders under the Hands of three or four of the ſaid Stewards for each Payment of Money to the Uſes above-mentioned ſhall be a ſufficient Diſcharge for ſo much Money to ſuch Treaſurer, Provided the ſaid Treaſurer or Treaſurers keep a juſt and fair Accompt of all ſuch Monies by him or them particularly received and diſburſed, to be ſhown to the Subſcribers (if they require it) as often as they ſhall publickly meet together: Witneſs our Hands this Eighteenth Day of *June*, *Anno Dom.* 1691. *Annoq; Regni Domini & Dominæ noſtr' Gulielmi & Mariæ, Angliæ, Scotiæ, Franciæ & Hiberniæ Regis & Reginæ, &c. tertio.*

William Hembricks High-Conſtable of the *Tower-Hamblets*. } { *James Jefferys* High-Conſtable of the *Tower-Liberty*.

Richard Wellday,	*Samuel Field*, and *Daniel Aſhford*, Treaſurers.	Dr. *Jeremiah Butts*,
Charles Cuttinges,		*Thomas Sherman*,
VVilliam Backer,		*John Cadman*,
Daniel Stattsburg,		*Thomas Hollyes*,
George Porter,		*John Hayes*,
VVilliam Crook,		*John Wright*,
Samuel Penny,		*Thomas King*,
James Anderſon,		*Phillip Narway*,
Jonathan Mattſon,		*VVilliam VVeſt*,
Jonathan Eaſden,		*Thomas Margeſon*,
John Brumerick,		*VValter Strange*,
Richard Johnſon,		*VVilliam Downer*.

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